City Council Bill 21-0095 Support

October 27, 2021

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council City Hall, Room 400 100 N. Holiday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: Support for CCB 21-0095

Dear Council President Mosby and Members of the City Council:

As the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, I support City Council Bill 21-0095, entitled "Labor Trafficking – Notice Requirements" which mandates certain contractors engaged with the City of Baltimore post signage displaying contact information from the human trafficking prevention hotline. The contractors referenced in this bill may obtain the required human trafficking prevention hotline notices from the United States Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign website, which is focused on public awareness and education of these issues.

This bill builds on the previous successes of the 2015 legislation, City Council Bill 14-0464 and 2016 legislation, City Council Bill 16-0661 which initially required signage to be posted in restaurants, hotels and adult entertainment venues. The State's Attorney's Office supports a victim centered approach and remains a strong advocate for victims through our commitment to providing access to victim and restorative services. I believe this legislation will work to identify potential victims as well as those potential oppressors.

I appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this legislation. Human trafficking is a serious issue in Maryland, and specifically in Baltimore City. Should this signage raise awareness and help one individual escape from the modern day slavery known as human trafficking, it would be a success. For this reason, I support City Council Bill 21-0095.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marilyn J. Mosby

State's Attorney for Baltimore City